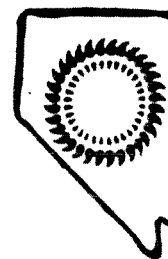


NEVADA CLIMATE SUMMARY



Office of the State Climatologist

Offices: 226 and 322

Mackay Science

(702) 784-1723

Nevada State Library
and Archives

MAY 1 8 2005

STATE PUBLICATIONS

John W. James

State Climatologist

Mackay Science Hall

University of Nevada-Reno

Reno, Nevada 89557

AUGUST 1996
VOLUME 13, NUMBER 8

SYNOPSIS

Most months have a memorable climate event that is recalled as time goes on. August 1996 had an episode that was only in part climatically involved. Wildfires burned large areas in Northern and Western Nevada and in nearby Eastern California, so that smoke particles obscured the skies much of the time all month, especially in Western Nevada. Above normal temperatures and a lack of much rain in most places added to the fire problem.

There were spots of heavy precipitation, such as the 2" that fell in less than a half hour on the West side of Gardnerville on the 12th, but most of the State had below normal amounts. Water Year precipitation (Oct. 1, 1995 - Sept. 1, 1996) ranges from about 1 & 1/4 times normal in East Slope Sierra Nevada areas to only 1/2 in the South and 2/3 of normal in the East. The Humboldt and Owyhee River areas have had near normal amounts this Water Year.

TEMPERATURE

August temperatures were above normal in all but the Northeast as the 1996 Summer Season (June-Aug.) ends up warmer than normal except in the Northeast.

Some 1996 summer highs were reached at Pioche/Lister (97°) Belmont (94°) Fallon NAS (102°) and 99° at Incline, which was only one degree below the all-time Tahoe Basin high. Laughlin reached 116° for the State high, not far from the 121° of Cottonwood Cove set in 1992.

On the low side San Jacinto had 21° on the 20th, with a high that same day of 87° for a 66 degree warming in about 7 hours! The State August low is 10° set here and at Charleston 4 years ago.

PRECIPITATION

Precipitation was hard to come by in the Silver State this month. Only a few locations had more than an inch, with several areas having none. The wettest place was in the Carson Valley where 1.94" fell in less than a half hour during an intense thunderstorm on the 12th at Jerry and Jean Noosinow's home on the West side of Gardnerville. The 2.11" monthly total here was greater than anywhere else in Nevada. Kyle Canyon near Las Vegas had 1.96"; with 1.40" coming during a thunderstorm on the 16th.

SUNSHINE, WIND & EVAPORATION

Sunshine hours were above normal this month, with wind speed averages below. Speeds reached gusts of 50mph along the Eastern Sierra Slope at mid-month.

Evaporation was above normal with for example, 11.77 at Rye Patch Dam, 10.09 at Honey Lake, 10.03 at Orovada, 7.66 at Fallon Exp. Station, 7.30 at U.N.R., and 6.21 at Minden.

NOTE: What are the hottest and coldest temperatures ever recorded in Nevada by County?

CLARK	HOT 125° Laughlin COLD -18° Kyle Canyon	June 1994 Dec. 1990
LINCOLN	HOT 114° Alamo COLD -38° Spring Valley State Park (near Pioche)	July 1942 Dec. 1990
NYE	HOT 117° Clay City (Amargosa Valley) COLD -34° Reese River	July 1934 Dec. 1990
ESMERALDA	HOT 111° Silverpeak COLD -28° Goldfield	July 1975 Jan. 1937

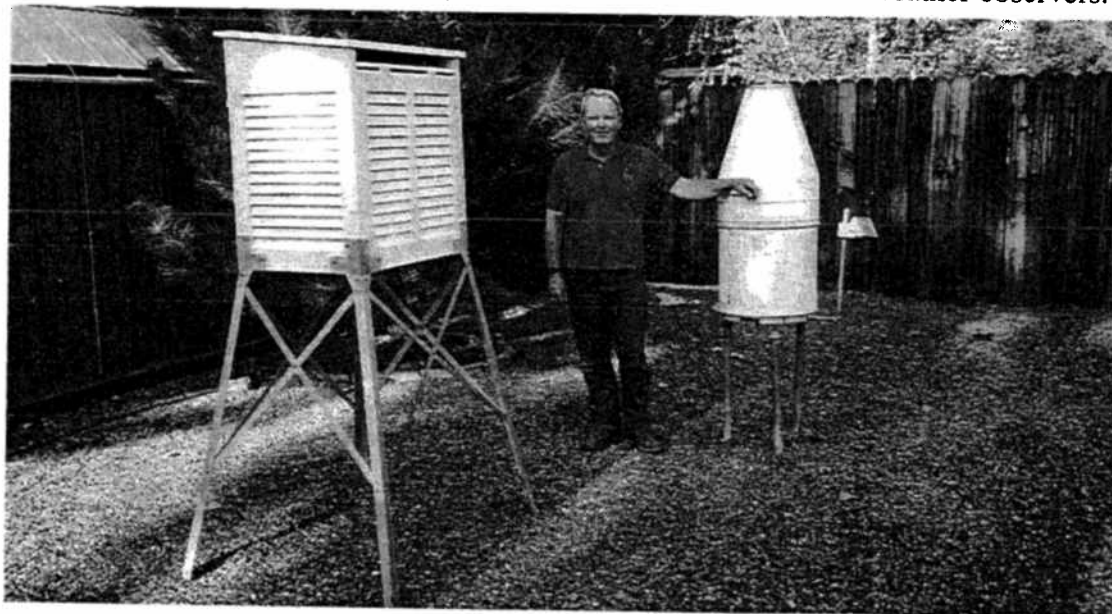
Next month four more counties.

John W. James
State Climatologist

Ted Hendricks has been an official weather observer for over 20 years. After 34 years with Lockheed, the past 15 of which he was a weather observer for the Santa Clara Valley Water District, Ted "retired" in 1988 and moved to the Carson Valley, taking on the job of being both a NWS observer as well as a State Climate Office weather person in Minden. He is also busy for a few weeks each year as the Climate Office Field Technician, finding new observers when old ones move, setting up new weather stations, and generally handling the maintenance for about 100 State operated climate stations. He also maintains one of only 13 evaporation pans in Nevada.

Born and raised in West Hollywood, Ca. Ted and his wife Elsie (she's from Newfoundland), love Nevada.

Many thanks Ted for being one of Nevada's best volunteer weather observers.



The Fleming Fish & Game complex on the Northeast shore of Honey Lake has been in operation as a California State Wildlife Area since 1942 when the State bought the old cattle and sheep Fleming Ranch, along with several buildings and 2100 acres (now 7850 acres). This writer installed a complete evaporation station there in July 1959 while employed by the California Department of Water Resources. That weather station has been faithfully tended to for the past 38 years with no loss of the temperature, precipitation, and evaporation data. This is thanks to dedicated persons like Irv and Barbara Cowley for the past 16 years, and John Lawrence, who has assisted for the past 33 years. Barb and John are shown in the photo.

Thanks to you and others before you for keeping one of the best and longest evaporation records in Nevada or California with no move of the equipment, not even a foot, in 38 years!

